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E RUQMBE #5152 1681120
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M AMEMBASSY BEIRUT
O SECSTATE WASHDC 459

THIS DOCUMENT MAY BE SHOWN TO
CIA AND STATE DEPARTMENT
REQUESTERS

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S E C R E T BEIRUT 5152
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ROM LAMBRAKIS
O. 11652: GDS
AGS: PINS, LE(MELOY, AMBASSADOR FRANCIS E., JR.)
USJ: POSSIBLE DISAPPEARANCE OF AMBASSADOR AND EMBOFF
EMBASSY HAS JUST BEEN INFORMED THAT AMB DID NOT RPT NOT
PEAR FOR SCHEDULED 1100 HOURS LOCAL APPOINTMENT WITH
RESIDENT-ELECT SARKIS IN HAZMIYEH ON EASTERN SIDE OF
ITY. HE DEPARTED EMBASSY ACCOMPANIED BY ECONOMIC/COMMERCIAL
OUNSELOR WARING AT APPROX. 1040 HOURS LOCAL AND WAS SEEN ALMOST
O MUSEUM CROSS-OVER POINT BY SURVEILLANCE VEHICLE.
BOUT 1055 DRIVER/BODYGUARD TRANS-
MITTED GARBLED MESSAGE OVER RADIO NET TO RSO WHICH AT THAT TIME
AS INTERPRETED AS PRE-AGREED CODEWORD TO INDICATE SAFE ARRIVAL
N CHRISTIAN SIDE OF CONFRONTATION LINE.
AT 1250 HOURS LOCAL, WIFE OF AMBASSADOR'S CHAUFFEUR,
ZOHAI MOGHRABI, RECEIVED TELEPHONE CALL FROM UNIDENTIFIED MALE
WHO INFORMED HER THAT ZOHAI HAS BEEN KIDNAPPED. WE IMMEDIATELY
CONTACTED AIDE-DE-CAMP OF SARKIS WHO INFORMED US THAT AMB. HAD NOT
YET NOT ARRIVED AND THAT SARKIS TOO WAS CONCERNED. SARKIS' AIDE
UNDERTOOK TO CHECK WHETHER PHALANGE ROADBLOCK ON EASTERN SIDE OF
MUSEUM HAD PASSED AMBASSADOR THROUGH. AS DOUBLECHECK, EMBOFF ALSO
CONTACTED KARIM PAKRADOUNI OF PHALANGE POLITBURO WHO IS ALSO CHECKING
WITH PHALANGE CHECKPOINT.
WE ARE PRESENTLY CHECKING WITH WIFE OF CHAUFFEUR
TO DETERMINE IF CALLER PROVIDED ANY ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
OR CLUES. HOPEFULLY, WE WILL SOON BE ABLE TO ESTABLISH
CONCLUSIVELY WHETHER OR NOT AMB. DISAPPEARED ON WESTERN OR EASTERN
SIDE OF LINE (WE ARE TOLD BY SARKIS'S OFFICE THAT WESTERN SIDE OF
LINE IS CURRENTLY MANNED BY MURABITOUN OF IBRAHIM QULALAT. WE
WILL BE REPORTING FURTHER AS SOON AS ADDITIONAL INFORMATION IS
AVAILABLE. SHOULD IT APPEAR PROBABLY THAT AMBASSADOR NEVER GOT TO
CHRISTIAN SIDE OF LINE, I PLAN INITIALLY ATTEMPT TO CONTACT JUMBLATT
(QULAYLAT ASSOCIATE) WILL MAKE FURTHER CONTACTS AS WARRANTED.
N.B. PHONE LINES ARE ON AGAIN, OFF AGAIN, BUT WE ARE DOING
BEST WE CAN WITH ALTERNATE TELEPHONE LOCATIONS.
MELOY
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NNN VZCZC 14:23:50Z EIA349LAN211 NNDD

State Dept. review completed